

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /096 W
-----029329 151957Z /21

R 140724Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6319
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5196

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PO ID
SUBJ: POSSIBLE PORTUGUESE INITIATIVE ON TIMOR

REF: (A) STATE 171425; (B) STATE 171579; (C) LISBON 4404

1. ACTING POLCOUNS DISCUSSED INFORMAL REACTIONS (REF A)
TO POSSIBLE GOP INITIATIVE ON TIMOR WITH THE FOREIGN
MINISTER'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT ROBERTO CARNEIRO JULY 12.
CARNEIRO UNDERSTOOD OUR INFORMAL POSITION, BUT NOTED THAT
ARTICLE 307 OF THE PORTUGUESE CONSTITUTION STATES THAT
"PORTUGAL SHALL REMAIN BOUND BY ITS RESPONSIBILITY, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW, TO PROMOTE AND SAFE-
GUARD THE RIGHT TO INDEPENDANCE OF EAST TIMOR." THUS
BOUND, HE EXPLAINED, THE GOP CANNOT ACCEPT THE INCORP-
ORATION OF EAST TIMOR INTO INDONESIA AS A "FAIT ACCOMPLI"
IN THE ABSENCE OF A VALID ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

2. CARNEIRO WENT ON TO ADD THAT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY INDICATES THAT TIMORESE ARE INCREASINGLY
OPTING FOR FRETLIN AND NOT INDONESIAN CONTROL; THAT THERE
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ARE CURRENTLY ALMOST 7000 TIMORESE PROHIBITED FROM JOINING
THEIR FAMILIES IN PORTUGAL; AND THAT IF PORTUGAL WERE ADMITTED
TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, TIMOR IS AN ISSUE THEY WOULD BE
FORCED TO RAISE.

3. ON DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOI AT THE UN, CARNEIRO CHARACTER-
IZED THEM AS "EXTREMELY INFORMAL." IT HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN

SUGGESTED, HE ADDED, THAT THE GOP AND GOI FOREIGN MINISTERS
MEET TO DISCUSS TIMOR DURING UNGA THIS FALL.
BLOOMFIELD

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Message Attributes

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